

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 13-16 and 18-25 are allowed. Claim 26 is also pending and stands rejected under Section 102. Applicants amend claims 16 and 26 in this response. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 13-16 and 18-26 remain for consideration.

II. Amendment to Claims

Claims 16 and 26 are amended to correct errors in the names of some of the Lewis bases.

Claim 26 is further amended to more precisely define the amount of Lewis base. In particular, the value of p is now defined by " $0 < p/(n+p) \leq 0.1$." Support appears on page 2, ll. 19-23 of the original application (see WO 2005/063832).

Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to enter the amendment.

III. Response to the Section 102 Rejection

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Sacchetti et al. (EP 0395083). Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the following remarks.

According to the Examiner, Sacchetti anticipates claim 26 when " n is 2, p is 0, and LB is absent." The claim, as amended to define p as " $0 < p/(n+p) \leq 0.1$," requires both ethanol and a Lewis base. As Applicants noted in their previous response, Sacchetti exemplifies adducts that have only ethanol present. Additionally, Sacchetti's dealcoholation routine produces compositions that have less than the $n = 2$ to 6 moles of ethanol per mole of Mg that Applicants' claim 26 requires. Moreover, Sacchetti does not suggest limiting the amount of Lewis base to the low level required by the claims. Because amended claim 26 is distinguishable from Sacchetti, the Examiner should reconsider and withdraw the Section 102 rejection.

IV. Conclusion

In view of their amendment and the remarks above, Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to enter reconsider and withdraw the rejection and pass the case to issue. Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone their attorney at (610) 359-2276 if she believes that a discussion of the application might be helpful.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box. 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 17, 2010.

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Respectfully submitted,
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